

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Lexington

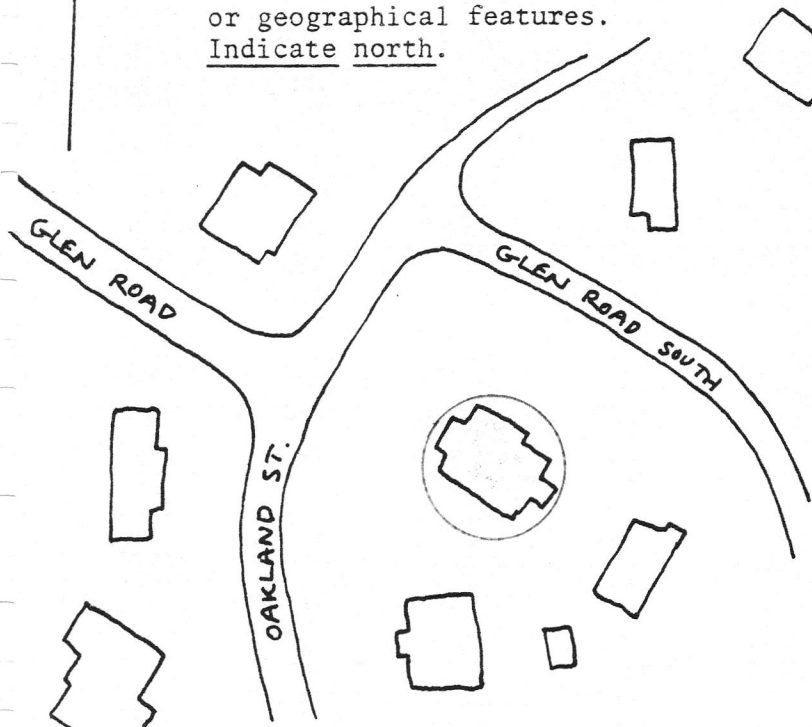
29 Oakland St. & Glen Road

Historic Name Egen R. Ferguson HouseOriginal ResidencePresent ResidenceOwnership: ☒ Private individual
Private organization

Public

Original owner

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1895Source Lexington Minute Man, Nov. 23, 1894Style English Revival

Architect

Exterior wall fabric aluminum sidingOutbuildings hip roof carriage house w/eyebrow window

Major alterations (with dates)

Moved Date

Approx. acreage .6 (26673')

Setting Meriam Hill: residential street
of substantial late nineteenth century
houses.

Recorded by Audrey R. MacCarey; Anne GradyOrganization Lexington Historical Comm.Date 4-16-76; March, 1984

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

Fieldstone foundation, 8 over 2 windows, box porch w/flat roof supported by 10 columns 3 windowed bay w/balustrade top at right side, 2 story 5 sided bay w/flat roof on left side, front roof overhang supported by brackets, 2 shingled dormers on front w/triangle roofs, 2 chimneys across ridge w/drip molding, 2 story gabled ell at rear w/dormer (triangle roof) each side, chimney

(See Continuation Sheet)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

This house and the house at 27 Oakland Street were built by Eben Rhoades Ferguson of Charlestown. This house was for his family; the one next door was for his mother-in-law Charlotte Elizabeth Smith. The local newspaper noted that both houses cost \$5,000-6,000 to build (Lexington Minute Man, August 11, 1895). The local newspaper described the buildings as "of a large square style of architecture with large entrance halls in the middle of the front with rooms on either side with plain surfaces broken by bays and ornamental windows" (Lexington Minute Man, August 11, 1895).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 201. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Lexington Minute Man, November 23, 1894, August 11, 1895, August 31, 1895.

1889 atlas

1906 atlas

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Lexington

Form No:

379

Property Name: 29 Oakland Street

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

This is one of the ample late nineteenth century houses which characterize Meriam Hill. Its striking features are the distinctive high pitch roof with bell cast eaves and unusual dormers, and the half timbering in the gable. The design may have been more cohesive before the application of aluminum siding.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
29 OAKLAND ST.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

H

379

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

As indicated in the previous inventory form, this house and its neighbor at 29 Oakland Street were both constructed in 1895. On August 2, 1895 the *Lexington Minute-man* included the following description of the construction of the two houses and the development of this part of Oakland Street:

During the late spring the extension of upper Oakland street was opened up, which carries the street over the summit of the hill to its limit which is reached at the extensive grounds of the Hayes estate. As yet the street is in a rough state but in time will be graded and will make a beautiful street and the house lots now to be had will be quickly snatched up by parties seeking a desirable building site on which to locate a new house. There are already in the process of construction two houses worth from five to six thousand dollars each. These houses are located on the right side of the street adjoining each other and will be completed about the same time. The first one is being building for Mrs. Charlotte E. Smith, of Charlestown, and the second for Mrs. Mary W. Ferguson of the same place. They are of the large, square style of architecture with large entrance halls in the middle of the front with rooms either side, with the plain surface broken by bays and ornamental windows. The frames are about completed and ready for the interior finish.

Eben Rhoades Ferguson, husband of Mary Ferguson, died in November 1897. Mary Ferguson continued to live here with their two daughters until about 1915. In the 1930s and early 1940s the house was occupied by Guy Maynard and family.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Minute-Man, August 2, 1895.
Middlesex County Register of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.
U.S. Census Records, 1900-1930.

Supplement prepared by:
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June 2009